

New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program

River Nomination Form

Instructions: Before beginning any work on a river nomination, Sponsors should contact the State Rivers Coordinator at the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES). The Rivers Coordinator can provide initial guidance by identifying local and regional contacts and other sources of information and can give advice throughout the preparation of a river nomination. Refer to the publication, "A Guide to River Nominations," for a step-by-step explanation of the nomination process and a directory of federal, state, regional, and private sources of information and technical assistance. The River Coordinator's address and telephone number are: DES Rivers Coordinator, P.O. Box 95, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03302-0095, (603) 271-8801.

I. NOMINATION INFORMATION

1. Name of River: _____
2. River/River Segment Location (and start/end points) and Length (miles): _____

3. (a) Sponsoring Organization or Individual: _____
(b) Contact Person: _____
(c) Address: _____

(d) Daytime Telephone Number: _____

II. SUMMARY: RESOURCES OF STATEWIDE OR LOCAL SIGNIFICANCE

Explanation: In order to be eligible for designation to the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program, a river must contain or represent either a significant statewide or local example of a natural, managed, cultural, or recreational resource.

Instructions:

1. By checking the appropriate boxes below, indicate the resource values that you believe are present in the nominated river and its corridor and whether you believe these values are present at a level of significance that is statewide or local. If the value is not present, leave the box blank.

| | Value Present/ Local Significance | Value Present/ Statewide Significance |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Natural Resource | | |
| Geologic or Hydrologic Resources | | |
| Wildlife Resources | | |
| Vegetation/Natural Communities | | |
| Fish Resources | | |
| Rare Species or Habitat | | |
| Water Quality | | |
| Open Space | | |
| Natural Flow Characteristics | | |
| Managed Resources | | |
| Impoundments | | |
| Water Withdrawals/Discharges | | |
| Hydroelectric Resources | | |
| Cultural Resources | | |
| Historical/Archaeological Resources | | |
| Community River Resources | | |

**Value Present/
Statewide Significance**

**Value Present/
Local Significance**

Recreational Resources

| | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| Fishery Resources | | |
| Boating Resources | | |
| Other Recreational Resources | | |
| Public Access | | |

Other Resources

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--|
| Scenic Resources | | |
| Land Use | | |
| Land Use Controls | | |
| Water Quantity | | |
| Riparian/Flowage Rights | | |
| Scientific Resources | | |

[illegible]

III. COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC SUPPORT

Explanation: The level of community and other public support which is demonstrated for a river nomination will be an important factor in determining whether that river will be recommended for legislative designation. Such support may be shown by the adoption of a town resolution, a letter from selectmen, master plan excerpts, or documented support from other groups, either public or private (if private, explain the group's purpose and who is represented).

Instructions: Describe the type of community and other public support which exists for the river nomination and attach appropriate documentation. Include copies of any letters of support from local elected and appointed officials.

IV. OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Explanation: In addition to the information provided on this nomination form, Sponsors are encouraged to submit any other information which they believe will support the nomination of the river. This information may include a visual presentation (for example, a slide program or a map showing the location of significant resources) or studies and reports on the river.

Instructions: List what, if any, additional supporting information has been submitted with this river nomination.

V. RIVER CLASSIFICATIONS

Explanation: Each river or river segment that is designated by the state legislature will be placed into a river classification system. This classification system consists of four categories: Natural, Rural, Rural-Community and Community Rivers. Refer to Appendices A and B in the Guide to River Nominations, for a complete description and explanation of the river classification system and the instream protection measures which have been adopted by the state legislature for each classification. In this part of the nomination form, DES and the State Rivers Management Advisory Committee are interested in learning which river classification(s) you believe is most appropriate for your river.

Instructions:

1. For each classification criteria listed below (a-d), check the one box which most accurately describes the nominated river or segment.

(a) General Description

☐ The river or segment is free-flowing and characterized by high quality natural and scenic resources. The river shoreline is in primarily natural vegetation and the river corridor is generally undeveloped and development, if any, is limited to forest management and scattered housing. (Natural Rivers)

☐ The river or segment is adjacent to lands which are partially or predominantly used for agriculture, forest management, and dispersed or clustered residential development. Some instream structures may exist, including low dams, diversion works and other minor modifications. (Rural Rivers)

☐ The river or segment which flows through developed or populated areas of the state and which possesses existing or potential community resource values such as those defined in official municipal plans or land use controls. Such a river has mixed land uses in the corridor reflecting some combination of open space, agricultural, residential, commercial and industrial land uses. It is readily accessible by road or railroad and may include impoundments or diversions. (Rural-Community Rivers)

☐ The river or segment flows through populated areas of the state and possesses actual or potential resource values, with some residential or other building development near the shoreline. The river or river segment is readily accessible by road or railroad, and may include some impoundments or diversions. (Community Rivers)

(b) Length

☐ The river or segment is at least 5 miles long. (Natural Rivers)

☐ The river or segment is at least 3 miles long. (Rural and Rural-Community Rivers)

☐ The river or segment is at least 1 mile long. (Community Rivers)

(c) Water Quality

☐ The actual water quality of the river or segment meet Class A standards under the state's water quality standards. (Natural Rivers)

☐ The actual water quality of the river or segment meets Class B standards under the state's water quality standards. (Rural, Rural-Community and Community Rivers)

(d) Distance to Roads

☐

The minimum distance from the river shoreline to a paved road open to the public for motor vehicle use is at least 250 feet, except where a vegetative or other natural barrier exists which effectively screens the sight and sound of motor vehicles for a majority of the length of the river. (Natural Rivers)

☐

There is no minimum distance from the river shoreline to an existing road. Roads may parallel the river shoreline with regular bridge crossings and public access sites. (Rural, Rural-Community and Community Rivers)

2. Based on the boxes checked above, and your knowledge of the river or segment, identify those segments of the river which you believe should be classified as either a Natural, Rural, Rural-Community, or Community River. Be sure to include the start and end point of each segment and the length of the segment in miles (for example: Natural River: headwaters, Z miles, to the Town of ABC town line; Rural River: Town of ABC town line, Y miles, to the state border). Although a river or segment may be given more than one classification, the number of differently classified segments should be kept to a minimum. If your recommendation is incompatible with any of the above-listed criteria for a particular river classification, and you believe the classification is nevertheless appropriate and justified, explain why.

Natural River: _____

Rural River: _____

Rural-Community River: _____

Community River: _____

VI. Maps

A map of the river must be appended to this resource assessment. This map should be taken from a U.S. Geological Survey quadrangle (scale 1:24,000) or equivalent in accuracy and detail. GIS maps produced to show river-related resources can serve this purpose. Include an inset or locator map showing the location of the river or segment within the state.

VII. RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

1. Natural Resources

(a) Geologic Resources

Briefly describe the significant geologic resources of the river and its corridor, including any unique or visually interesting features such as waterfalls, unusual rock formations, and areas of rapids. If you are unable to include such features, then simply describe the bedrock geology map. Consider geologic resources on the basis of natural history, visual, and economic interest. Indicate if the state geologist or a national or state resource assessment has identified these geologic resources as significant at a national, regional (New England), state, or local level.

[illegible]

(b) Wildlife Resources

(1) List the species of mammals and birds commonly found in the river and river corridor.

[illegible]

(2) List any endangered or threatened animals which are supported by the river and river corridor environment. Include location, if known. Check whether these animals are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

| <u>Animal Species</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>E</u> | <u>or</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>N</u> | <u>or</u> | <u>S</u> |
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(3) List significant wildlife habitat which is supported by the river or to which the river is integral, for game and non-game wildlife populations. Identify if the habitat has been determined to be exceptionally diverse, very diverse, or moderately diverse by the NH Fish and Game Department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

| <u>Significant Habitat</u> | <u>Diversity Rating</u> |
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(4) Determine if the river corridor is important for the movement of wildlife between large habitat areas. If it is, explain why.

(c) Vegetation/Natural Communities

(1) List the plant species commonly found in the river and river corridor.

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(2) List any endangered or threatened plant species that are supported by the river and river corridor environment. Include location, if known. Check whether these plants are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

| <u>Plant Species</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>E</u> | <u>or</u> | <u>T</u> | <u>N</u> | <u>or</u> | <u>S</u> |
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(3) List any vegetative communities supported by the river and the river corridor environment which have been identified as "exemplary natural ecological communities" by the New Hampshire Natural Heritage Inventory. Include location, if known.

| <u>Exemplary Natural Ecological Community</u> | <u>Location</u> |
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(d) Fish Resources

(1) List the fish species commonly found in the river.

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(2) List any endangered or threatened fish species which inhabit the river. Check whether these fish are endangered [E] or threatened [T] species and if they are significant at a national [N] or state [S] level.

| Fish Species | Location | E | or | T | N | or | S |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|
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(3) Describe the presence and location of spawning beds, feeding areas, and other significant aquatic habitat for fish populations. Determine if the habitat is exceptionally diverse, very diverse or moderately diverse as determined by the NH Fish and Game Department or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

| Significant Habitat | Diversity Rating |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
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(4) Indicate whether the significant fisheries found in the river rely on natural reproduction or a stocking program. If fish populations rely on a stocking program, indicate whether they are partly or wholly dependent on the program.

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(5) Is the river a viable anadromous fish resource? If yes, identify any on-going or planned restoration programs.

(e) Water Quality

(1) Check the state's water quality classification which applies to this river or segment under state law.

- ☐ Class A ☐ Class B

(2) According to readily available information, what is the actual water quality of this river under the state's water quality standards?

- ☐ Class A ☐ Class B

(3) If the river is not currently supporting its water quality classification, identify the existing major causes of deficient water quality (e.g., industrial or sewage pollutants, agricultural fertilizer run-off) and possible corrective measures (e.g., regulations, enforcement, local and use controls).

(f) Natural Flow Characteristics

Briefly describe the natural flow characteristics of the river, including natural periodic variation in flow (e.g., spring run-off and summer flow amounts) and frequency and duration of flood events. If applicable, describe purpose of and flow variations caused by impoundments, significant diversions, or channel alterations, including interbasin transfers. Indicate which segments of the river are free-flowing.

(g) Open Space

Briefly describe, give the location and identify the type (e.g., floodplain, forested, etc.) and type of ownership (i.e., public or private) of significant areas of open space in the river corridor. Describe and include the location of any protected land parcels within the river corridor (e.g., state parks and forests, national forest lands, municipal parks and conservation easements).

2. Managed Resources

(a) Impoundments

List all of the dams which are present in the river, including any dams which are breached or in ruins. Identify their location, ownership, and purpose (i.e., flood control, low flow augmentation, or storage). Also indicate whether minimum flow requirements exist at any of the impoundments, if known. Include any proposals for new or reconstructed dams; indicate that this is a proposed dam by placing an asterisk (*) next to the name of the dam. Do not include existing or proposed dams which are used for hydroelectric energy production. These will be listed separately in the managed resources category.

| <u>Name of Dam</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Ownership</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Minimum Flow Req.?</u> |
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(b) Water Withdrawals and Discharges

(1) List any significant water withdrawals from the river, including withdrawals for public drinking water, industry, and agriculture. Identify the purpose (e.g., irrigation) and location of the withdrawal. Indicate if the river has been identified in a state, regional, or local study as a potential source of water supply and, if so, identify the study.

| <u>Withdrawal</u> | <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Potential Source? (ID Study)</u> |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
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| Point Source Discharge | Type | Location | Permit? |
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List all known existing or potential (as cited in the NH River Protection and Energy Development Project -- Final Report; New England Rivers Center, 1983) sites of hydroelectric power production. Record the owner, location and whether the site is regulated or exempt from regulation by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

[illegible]

3. Cultural Resources

(a) Historical and Archaeological Resources

Describe any significant historical or archaeological resources or sites with significant potential for such resources (as determined by the state historic preservation officer) found in the river or river corridor. Identify whether the resource is listed or is eligible to be listed as a National Historic Landmark (NHL) or on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or is a recognized Historic District (HD) or Multiple Use Area (MUA). If known, indicate whether these resources are significant at a national, regional (New England), state, or local level. Below this listing, note any local town histories, oral histories, or general historical knowledge about the use of the river and its corridor.

| <u>Historical/Archaeological Resource</u> | <u>Listing/Eligibility</u> | <u>Significance</u> |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
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Local Town Histories, Oral Histories or General Historical Knowledge

(b) Community Resource

Briefly describe how the river is recognized or used as a significant community resource. If the river's importance is recognized in any official town documents, such as a master plan, include reference to such documents.

4. Recreational Resources

(a) Fishery

Identify the type and location of any high quality recreational fisheries or areas with such potential which are present in the river (as determined by the NH Fish and Game Department). Also indicate areas that have potential to be significant fisheries.

(b) Boating

Describe any significant recreational boating opportunities which are present on the river, including whether it is used for motorized boating. Indicate if the river is cited as significant for recreational boating in a publication of a national, regional or statewide recreation organization. Refer to the NH River Protection and Energy Development Project to determine the river's significance as a recreational boating river. Also note if boaters are attracted from beyond the local area and if there are areas with potential to be significant boating resources.

(c) Other Recreational Opportunities

List any other recreational areas, facilities, or opportunities or potential for such on the river or in the river corridor (e.g., hiking, camping, picnicking, etc.). Indicate ownership, if known.

| <u>Recreational Area</u> | <u>Ownership</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
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(d) Public Access

List any existing public access sites located along the river. These may be formal or non-formal access points. Include the type of public access (e.g., canoe only), related facilities (e.g., parking), and if known, ownership at each site.

| <u>Location</u> | <u>Type of Access</u> | <u>Related Facilities</u> | <u>Ownership</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
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5. Other Resources

(a) Scenic Resources

Briefly describe any significant scenic focal points along the river including designated viewing areas and scenic vistas and overlooks. Indicate the location of the significant views to and from the river.

(b) Land Use

Briefly describe the general patterns of current land use in the river corridor. Include location of significant developments within the river corridor including agricultural, residential, commercial, and industrial developments, and solid waste management facilities. Also include location of lands used for forest management or which are undeveloped. Identify such features as roads along the river, railroads, bridges, and utility crossings. Describe the type and location of any proposals for major developments within the river corridor.

(c) Land Use Controls

Identify the municipalities with existing master plans and zoning ordinances within the river corridor. Identify existing or significant proposed land use controls which affect the river and the river corridor (e.g., zoning, easements, subdivision regulations).

(d) Water Quantity

List the location of all operating stream gauge stations maintained by the U.S. Geological Survey, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers or the Department of Environmental Services. Include the number of years of record and whether it is a partial or full record station.

(e) Riparian Interests/Flowage Rights

Briefly describe any riparian interests in the corridor, including any known flowage rights, historic water uses, and legislative authorizations or appropriations (for example, a town given legislative authorization to water for public consumption in the 19th century).

Final note: Before submitting the nomination, please check the form for completeness. Nomination forms are reviewed for completeness by the Department of Environmental Services. Be sure to consult Env-C 700 and RSA 483 to make sure that all information requirements have been met. Incomplete nominations will be ineligible for consideration by the State Legislature in the next legislative session.